

Message Text

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NESCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 19525 ACTION SECSTATE INFO HELSINKI 2
JUL QUOTE

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PORG OCON UNESCO
SUBJ: FINNISH-HOSTED SYMPOSIUM OF UNESCO NATIONAL
COMMISSIONS OF CSCE FINAL ACT SIGNATORIES ON
CULTURAL COOPERATION

REF: (A) PARIS 16975; (B) STATE 150422

1. SUBJECT SYMPOSIUM, TO BE HELD AUGUST 26-28 IN HEL-
SINKI, IS NOT REPEAT NOT A UNESCO ACTIVITY, ALTHOUGH A
SMALL PARTICIPATION PROGRAM GRANT FROM UNESCO WILL MEET
SOME OF THE COSTS. THE MEETING IS A FINNISH GOVERNMENT
INITIATIVE. ATTENDANCE OF WESTERN SIGNATORIES TO THE
HELSINKI FINAL ACT WILL BE MINIMAL, IN VIEW OF DECISION
TAKEN AT RECENT MEETING OF THE EEC "NINE" NOT TO ATTEND
ACCORDING TO UK PERMREP. WHILE UK PARTICIPATION - IN
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THE PERSON OF THE MEMBER OF THE BRITISH NATCOM FOR UNES-

CO - HAD AT FIRST BEEN COMMUNICATED TO GOF, UK PERM-
REP BELIEVES BRITISH INVITEE WILL PROBABLY WITHDRAW.
NEGATIVE DECISION OF NINE REFLECTS: (A) COMMON RELUC-
TANCE TO HAVE BROAD UNESCO INVOLVEMENT IN FOLLOW-UP
ACTIVITIES UNDER FINAL ACT; AND (B) WISH TO CONFINE SUCH
INVOLVEMENT TO CAREFULLY AND PRECISELY NEGOTIATED
ACTIVITIES REACHED ON BASIS OF TRUE CONSENSUS OF ALL
SIGNATORIES TO THE ACT. RE THIS PARTICULAR SYMPOSIUM,
"NINE" REPORTEDLY FELT IT WAS KIND OF MEETING THAT SOVIET
-EE PARTICIPANTS COULD EXPLOIT TO FURTHER BLOC INTERPRE-
TATIONS OF HELSINKI ACT.

2. AS GOF IS NEGOTIATOR AND HOST OF SYMPOSIUM, DEPART-
MENT MIGHT WISH TO ADDRESS REQUEST FOR DETAILED INFORMA-
TION DIRECTLY TO GOF. PERMDEL RECOMMENDATION, HOWEVER,
IS THAT U.S. TAKE A COMMON POSITION WITH THE NINE AND
NOT REPEAT NOT ATTEND THE SUMPOSIUM. PERMDEL BELIEVES
IMPORTANT THAT WE MAINTAIN A CLOSELY COORDINATED POSITION
IN COMMON WITH THE MAJOR WESTERN EUROPEAN SIGNA-
TORIES TO ACT AS FAR AS UNESCO INVOLVEMENT IS CONCERNED
AND CAN SEE NO GOOD REASON FOR ACCEPTING GOF INVITA-
TION IN THE FACE OF THE EEC NINE REJECTION.

3. ACCORDING TO CIRCULAR LETTER FROM FINNISH PERMDEL AT
UNESCO, SUBJECT SYMPOSIUM IS TRACED BACK TO A SERIES OF
SYMPOSIA ON PROBLEMS OF CULTURAL COOPERATION BEGUN BY
THE FINNISH NATCOM FOR UNESCO IN 1973. FINNISH SYMPOSIUM
IN JUNE 1973 DEALT WITH "THE CULTURAL POLICY OF SMALL
NATIONS AND THE ORIGINALITY OF NATIONAL CULTURE IN A
RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD", THE SECOND IN JUNE 1973 CON-
CERNED "BIG AND SMALL NATIONS IN CULTURAL COOPERATION".
CIRCULAR LETTER STATES THAT ON MARCH 1, 1976 THE FIN-
NISH NATCOM SENT AN INVITATION TO ALL "EUROPEAN REGION"
NATIONS TO SEND EXPERTS TO THE MEETING (INVITATION IN-
CLUDED PAYMENT OF FULL BOARD AND LODGING BUT NOT RE-
PEAT NOT TRAVEL EXPENSES). CIRCULAR LETTER CONCLUDES BY
STRESSING THAT THE SYMPOSIUM "IS A PROJECT OF THE FIN-
NISH NATIONAL COMMISSION AND NOT A FORMAL MEETING OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF EUROPEAN NATIONAL COMMISSIONS" AND
THEREFORE HAS "NO FORMAL STATUS."
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4. PERMDEL AIRPOUCHING COPY OF FINNISH PERMDEL CIRCULAR
LETTER AND ENCLOSURE OF SUGGESTED AGENDA.
RUSH
UNQTE. KISSINGER

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